

Applicants : Lucile VAYSSE-LUDOT, Jean-Pierre LECOUE, Pascal LANGLOIS
Title : Industrial synthesis of strontium ranelate and its hydrates.

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

As soon as the Serial No. and Filing Date have been accorded the above-identified application, kindly enter the following amendment:

IN THE ABSTRACT: Kindly replace the Abstract with the substitute Abstract sheet provided herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS: Kindly cancel claims 1-15 and replace with the following claims 16-30, which correspond to each cancelled claim.

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REMARKS:

A few constructive editorial changes have been made in the claims to bring them somewhat more into line with U.S. practice and requirements.

Applicants have cancelled all of the originally filed claims, 1-15. New claims 16-30 have been added to better encompass the full scope and breadth of the invention, notwithstanding Applicants' belief that the claims would have been allowable as originally filed. The replacement Claims are attached hereto.

Applicant claims the benefit of French Application No. 02.11763 filed on September 24, 2002, a certified copy of which and translation thereof will follow under separate cover.

Entry of the amendments and favorable action on the merits are all hereby respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

THE FIRM OF HUESCHEN AND SAGE


G. PATRICK SAGE, Attorney #37,710

Dated: September 24, 2003
Customer No. 25,666
500 Columbia Plaza
350 East Michigan Ave.
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(616) 382-0030

Enclosure: Return Postal Card Receipt
Replacement Claims 16-30